

Docket No.: H6808.0040/P040
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of:
Yoshihiro Kimura et al.

Confirmation No.: 2045

Application No.: 10/779,749

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 18, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD OF DETERMINING THE
CONCAVITY AND CONVEXITY ON
SAMPLE SURFACE, AND CHARGED
PARTICLE BEAM APPARATUS

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 4 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 5 of this paper.